

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Shinji MAEKAWA et al. ) Confirmation No. 6581  
Application No. 10/573,155 ) Art Unit: 2895  
Filed: March 23, 2006 ) Examiner: Thien F. Tran  
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD )  
FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), Applicants respectfully certify (with the exception of the family documents noted below) that each item of information contained in the present information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present information disclosure statement.

Applicants wish to note that CN-1297582 was cited in the Office Action of counterpart Chinese Patent Application No. 200480037686.6 dated September 11, 2009. CN-1297582 is in the same family as EP-1 085 578 and US-6,767,775, but these family documents were not included in the Office Action.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the

attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initial a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180 fee due and any additional fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

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